

Message Text

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APPROVED BY EUR:AAHARTMAN
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TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 306399

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TU, US

SUBJECT: U.S.-TURKISH DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT (DCA)

1. FOLLOWING DECEMBER 16 CONVERSATION WITH ASST SEC'Y
HARTMAN ON OTHER SUBJECTS (SEPTELS), TURKISH AMBASSADOR
ESENBEL EMPHASIZED URGENCY OF HAVING U.S.-TURKISH DCA
PLACED HIGH ON NEW ADMINISTRATION'S AGENDA AND PASSED BY
CONGRESS AT EARLY DATE IN 1977. ESENBEL NOTED THAT TURKISH
ELECTION CAMPAIGN FOR OCTOBER ELECTIONS WILL BEGIN EARLY IN
1977 AND THAT TO AVOID DCA BECOMING DOMESTIC POLITICAL ISSUE
IN TURKEY, EARLY PASSAGE BY U.S. CONGRESS WAS VITAL.
ESENBEL RECOGNIZED THAT MANY IN CONGRESS WOULD LIKE TO CON-
SIDER PARALLEL GREEK AND TURKISH DCAS AT SAME TIME BUT EX-
PRESSED FEAR THAT GREEKS WOULD AGAIN PLAY "DELAYING GAME"
IN BASE NEGOTIATIONS WITH U.S. AS THEY HAD LAST SUMMER.
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2. HARTMAN NOTED THAT THERE SEEMED TO BE GROWING RE-
COGNITION OF THE TIMING PROBLEMS RELATED TO CONGRESSIONAL
CONSIDERATION OF THE TURKISH DCA, BUT POINT-D OUT THAT IT
WOULD BE VERY HELPFUL IF THERE WAS AT LEAST THE IMPRESSION
OF MOVEMENT IN DEALING WITH THE CYPRUS PROBLEM. ESENBEL

RESPONDED BY REITERATING TURKISH AVERSION TO ANY LINKAGE
BETWEEN CYPRUS AND THE DCA. HARTMAN EXPLAINED THAT HE WAS
NOT TALKING OF "LINKAGE" BUT RATHER SOME SIGN OF PROGRESS
IN DEALING WITH CYPRUS THAT COULD BE POINTED TO.
KISSINGER

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